

**Meeting Notes**  
**Original Highlands Neighborhood Plan**  
**Public Meeting**  
**February 26, 2006**  
**(35 Attendees)**

- Introductions from Planning and Design, The Corradino Group, Councilman Tom Owen and Rob Haynes from Councilman Tandy's office.
- PowerPoint Presentation by Larry Strange
- Key Issues from PowerPoint presentation
  - o Baxter and Barret Corridors
    - How is information\vision and what the neighborhood wants conveyed to prospective property Owners?
    - From Councilman Owen – Any Council/Planning Commission decision for rezoning, etc. will be made with guidance and consideration of the Neighborhood Plan, as it will be adopted as an amendment to Cornerstone 2020.
    - Rob Haynes from Councilman Tandy's office noted that in the Buchertown area, when a property is put on the market, the neighborhood reaches out to the seller.
    - It was noted that in the Cherokee Triangle area they downzoned to limit undesirable uses and also became a Landmarks District. They also have an informational book they distribute to new owners. In addition, they educate local realtors on what is permissible in the neighborhood.
    - Tara Hagarty of the Neighborhood Task Force also noted that the process of creating a Neighborhood Plan puts on record, the views and expectations of the neighborhood.
  - o Single Family Residential Character
    - No Comments
  - o Crime and Safety
    - Crime isn't a daily problem, but when it does happen it is serious.
    - There are concentrations on Baxter, Barret and Bardstown.

- Lack of lighting seen as an issue associated with crime.
  - Additional lighting and more police bicycle and foot patrols could also limit crime.
  - Homeowners could better light their properties with front and back porch lighting. This is advocated by the Block Watch Program.
  - It was noted that residents could get lights from LG&E for a nominal monthly fee.
- o Parking
- Parking problems are related to when bars are full. This is typically after 10:00 PM on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
  - There are also other issues associated with the lack of parking. There are noise issues associated with bar patrons returning to their vehicles in the early morning hours.
  - In terms of safety, it was suggested that some streets be changed to one-way to address commercial/industrial traffic and parking issues.
  - Some residents encounter driveways blocked by parked cars. Police will ticket, but not always have cars towed.
  - One resident felt that the residents should be accommodated first, and that businesses should address and solve their own parking problems. He was also not in favor of permit parking for residents. TARC was suggested as a means to access businesses in the area.
  - The Manager of Food Operations at Oshea's, Tom Jackson, a 42-year resident of the neighborhood, noted that his organization would help in any way possible. He also noted that about 40% of Oshea's employees are renters in the neighborhood.
- o Alley Clean-up and Restoration
- No Comments
- o Institutional Reuse
- Need to be very specific about what we want to see and what we think are the potential re-use options.
- o Vacant or Underused Parcels
- No Comments

- o Lack of Recreational/Park Area
  - More park areas would allow for more family friendly activities.
  - The school owns all park space. Is it adequate and how do we hold on to it are key questions. Patterson Playground is owned by the school and leased by Metro Parks.
  - Is there adequate park space for a neighborhood of this size?
- o Aesthetics
  - No Comments
- o Historic Significance
  - What incentives are there for historic restoration and rehabilitation?
  - State Tax Credit was noted as an incentive, but with a limited amount of funds available.
  - Difficulty noted in insurance claims. Claims adjusters are not always aware of the cost of historically accurate or compatible materials needed to repair historic homes to an original or near original condition.
- Vision Comments
  - o Should Baxter and Barret considered the same type of “vibrant commercial corridors”?
  - o Some felt that Barret should not have bars and restaurants.
  - o It was noted that neighborhood businesses helped financial support the Neighborhood Plan and that residential values have increased dramatically due to the proximity of the residential to businesses. A solution that balances residential uses with commercial uses should be sought to maintain what makes the neighborhood a desirable place.
  - o In past years, businesses have increased in size but were not held to zoning standards and regulations by the City.